AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A network monitor for passively monitoring traffic on a dedicated packet-switched data network connecting network controllers controlling associated network elements of an automatically switched optical transport network[[;]]͵ said network monitor being ~~adapted and programmed~~ configured to:

[[- to]] filter protocol frames of a predefined protocol type by which said network controllers advertise ~~the~~ a network topology and status of the transport network; and

[[- to]] extract from the filtered protocol frames information about the network topology and status of the transport network and ~~displays these~~ display the network topology and status information graphically to a user.

2. (currently amended): A network monitor according to claim 1, comprising a sniffer module ~~adapted and programmed~~ configured to capture data from the data network connection, or read data from a previously ~~capture~~ captured file and to pass said ~~captured~~ data to an evaluation module adapted and programmed to extract said topology and status information from the ~~captured~~ data and to display ~~these~~ the network topology and status information graphically on a display.

3. (original): A network monitor according to claim 1, wherein said frames of a predefined protocol type are OSPF frames comprising information about routing controllers, border nodes of domains and links to and from the border nodes.

4. (currently amended): A network monitor according to claim 1, <u>wherein said network monitor is further configured</u> adapted and programmed to represent domains as indicated by their corresponding routing controllers as smaller circles along a circle line of a larger circle.

5. (currently amended): A network monitor according to claim 1, <u>wherein said network monitor is further configured</u> adapted and programmed to represent links with idle capacity in a first color and busy links in a second color.

6. (currently amended): A network monitor according to claim 1, further comprising a command line interface <u>connected</u> to one of the network controllers adapted to program said connected network controller to broadcast a request for an immediate update of topology and status information and/or to program said <u>connected</u> network controller to set up a new connection and/or perform other configuration changes in said automatically switched optical transport network.

7. (currently amended): A network monitor according to claim 1, <u>wherein said network monitor is further configured to</u> further being adapted and programmed to detect a mismatch between any two filtered protocol frames and display these frames as ASCII text to a user.

8. (currently amended):   A method of passively monitoring traffic on a dedicated

packet-switched data network connecting network controllers controlling associated network

elements of an automatically switched optical transport network; said method comprising the

steps of:

[[-]] filtering protocol frames of a predefined protocol type by which said network

controllers advertise ~~the~~ a network topology and status of the transport network;

[[-]] extracting from the filtered protocol frames information about the <u>network</u> topology

and status of the transport network and

[[-]] displaying ~~these~~ <u>the network topology and status</u> information graphically to a user.